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November 30, 2007

BY E-FILING

Magistrate Judge Leonard Stark United States District Court for the District of Delaware 844 N. King Street Wilmington, DE 19801

> Re: Phoenix Payment Systems, Inc. d/b/a Electronic Payment Exchange v. Lexcel, Inc. and Lexcel Solutions, Inc., C.A. No. 07-537 (***)

Dear Magistrate Judge Stark:

In connection with the Rule 16 teleconference with Your Honor scheduled for December 5, 2007, the parties have conferred and are submitting the enclosed proposed Scheduling Order for the Court's consideration. The parties are in agreement on all provisions in the proposed order, except for paragraphs 3(a) and 3(b), where the parties' proposals are set forth separately.

Respectfully,

Julia Heanev

JH:ncf Enclosure

cc:

Clerk, U.S. District Court (by hand delivery)

C. Barr Flinn (by e-mail)

Chad S. C. Stover (by e-mail)

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

PHOENIX PAYMENT SYSTEMS, INC. d/b/a ELECTRONIC PAYMENT EXCHANGE,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) C.A. No. 07-537 (***)
LEXCEL, INC. and LEXCEL SOLUTIONS, INC.,))
Defendants)

PROPOSED SCHEDULING ORDER

This _____ day of ________, 2007, the Court having conducted an initial Rule 16 scheduling and planning conference pursuant to Local Rule 16.2(a) on December 5, 2007, and the parties having determined after discussion that the matter cannot be resolved at this juncture by settlement, voluntary mediation, or binding arbitration;

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Rule 26(a)(1) Initial Disclosures and E-Discovery Default Standard.

Unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, the parties shall make their initial disclosures pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1) by January 4, 2008. If they have not already done so, the parties are to review the Court's Default Standard for Discovery of Electronic Documents, which is posted at http://www.ded.uscourts.gov (see Orders, etc., Policies & Procedures, Ad Hoc Committee for Electronic Discovery), and is incorporated herein by reference.

2. <u>Joinder of Other Parties and Amendment of Pleadings</u>. All motions to join other parties shall be made by December 13, 2007. All motions to amend or supplement the

pleadings shall be filed within 15 days after the Court rules on counterdefendant's motion to dismiss the counterclaim.

3. <u>Discovery</u>.

a. <u>Limitation on Hours for Deposition Discovery</u>.

Plaintiff: Each side is limited to a total of 70 hours of taking testimony by deposition upon oral examination, including expert depositions.

Defendant: Each side is limited to a total of 125 hours of taking testimony by deposition upon oral examination. This limitation does not include expert depositions.

b. <u>Location of Depositions</u>.

Plaintiff: Any party or representative (officer, director, or managing agent) of a party filing a civil action in this district court must ordinarily be required, upon request, to submit to a deposition at a place designated within this district. Exceptions to this general rule may be made by order of the Court. A defendant who becomes a counterclaimant, cross-claimant, or third-party plaintiff shall be considered as having filed an action in this Court for the purpose of this provision.

Defendant: In the absence of an agreement between the parties, the deposition of an individual shall be taken within 100 miles of his residence or place of employment, and the deposition of a corporation shall be taken within 100 miles of its place of business.

c. <u>Discovery Cut Off.</u> All fact discovery in this case shall be initiated so that it will be completed on or before October 31, 2008. The Court encourages the parties to serve and respond to contention interrogatories early in the case. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the limitations on discovery set forth in Local Rule 26.1 shall be strictly observed.

- d. <u>Disclosure of Expert Testimony</u>. For the party who has the initial burden of proof on the subject matter, the initial Federal Rule 26(a)(2) disclosure of expert testimony is due on or before December 5, 2008. The supplemental disclosure to contradict or rebut evidence on the same matter identified by another party is due on or before January 9, 2009. The rebuttal disclosure by the party who has the initial burden of proof on the subject matter is due on or before January 30, 2009. The scope of the experts' testimony shall be limited to the scope of the expert disclosures. Along with the submissions of the expert reports, the parties shall advise of the dates and times of their experts' availability for deposition. Expert depositions shall be completed by February 27, 2009.
- e. To the extent any objection to expert testimony is made pursuant to the principles announced in *Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharm., Inc.*, 509 U.S. 579 (1993), as incorporated in Federal Rule of Evidence 702, it shall be made by motion no later than the deadline for dispositive motions set forth herein, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.
- f. <u>Discovery Disputes.</u> Should counsel find they are unable to resolve a discovery dispute, the party seeking the relief shall contact chambers at (302) 573- 4571 to schedule a telephone conference. Not less than forty-eight hours prior to the conference, the party seeking relief shall file with the Court a letter, not to exceed three pages, outlining the issues in dispute and its position on those issues. (The Court does not seek extensive argument or authorities at this point; it seeks simply a statement of the issue to be addressed and a summary of the basis for the party's position on the issue.) Not less than twenty-four hours prior to the conference, any party opposing the application for relief may file a letter, not to exceed three pages, outlining that party's reasons for its opposition. **Should any document(s) be filed under seal, a copy of the sealed document(s) must be provided to the Magistrate Judge**

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within one (1) hour of e-filing the document(s). Should the Court find further briefing necessary upon conclusion of the telephone conference, the Court will order it. Disputes over protective orders are to be addressed in the first instance in accordance with this paragraph.

- 4. Application to Court for Protective Order. Should counsel find it will be necessary to apply to the Court for a protective order specifying terms and conditions for the disclosure of confidential information, counsel should confer and attempt to reach an agreement on a proposed form of order and submit it to the Court by January 4, 2008. Should counsel be unable to reach an agreement on a proposed form of order, the counsel must first follow the provisions of Paragraph 3e above. Any proposed order should include the following paragraph:
 - Other Proceedings. By entering this order and limiting the disclosure of information in this case, the Court does not intend to preclude another court from finding that information may be relevant and subject to disclosure in another case. Any person or party subject to this order who becomes subject to a motion to disclose another party's information designated "confidential" [the parties should list any other level of designation, such as "highly confidential," which may be provided for in the protective order] pursuant to this order shall promptly notify that party of the motion so that the party may have an opportunity to appear and be heard on whether that information should be disclosed.
- 5. <u>Papers Filed Under Seal</u>. When filing papers under seal, counsel should deliver to the Clerk an original and one copy of the papers.
 - 6. <u>ADR Process</u>. To be discussed during the Rule 16 conference.
- 7. <u>Interim Status Report.</u> On August 1, 2008, counsel shall submit a letter to the Court with an interim report on the nature of the matters in issue and the progress of discovery to date.
- 8. <u>Status Conference</u>. On December 5, 2007, the Court will hold a Rule 16(a), (b) and (c) conference by telephone with counsel beginning at 12:00 p.m. Plaintiffs

counsel shall initiate the telephone call. At the time of this conference, counsel shall also be prepared to discuss the progress, if any, of settlement discussions and shall be prepared to discuss the possibility of setting up a settlement conference with the Court, counsel and their clients. If all parties agree that there is nothing to report, nor anything to add to the interim status report or to this order, they shall notify the Court in writing before the conference is scheduled to occur, and the conference will be taken off of the Court's calendar.

- 9. <u>Case Dispositive Motions</u>. All case dispositive motions, an opening brief, and affidavits, if any, in support of the motion shall be served and filed on or before March 27, 2009. Briefing will be presented pursuant to the Court's Local Rules.
- 10. <u>Applications by Motion</u>. Except as otherwise specified herein, any application to the Court shall be by written motion filed with the Clerk. Unless otherwise requested by the Court, counsel shall not deliver copies of papers or correspondence to Chambers. Any non-dispositive motion should contain the statement required by Local Rule 7.1.1.
- 12. <u>Motions in Limine</u>. Motions in limine shall not be separately filed. All in limine requests and responses thereto shall be set forth in the proposed pretrial order. Each

party shall be limited to five in limine requests, unless otherwise permitted by the Court. The in limine request and any response shall contain the authorities relied upon; each *in limine* request may be supported by a maximum of three pages of argument and may be opposed by a maximum of three pages of argument. If more than one party is supporting or opposing an *in limine* request, such support or opposition shall be combined in a single three (3) page submission, unless otherwise ordered by the Court. No separate briefing shall be submitted on *in limine* requests, unless otherwise permitted by the Court.

13. <u>Jury Instructions, Voir Dire, and Special Verdict Forms</u>. Where a case is to be tried to a jury, pursuant to Local Rules 47 and 51 the parties should file proposed voir dire, instructions to the jury, and special verdict forms and jury interrogatories three full business days before the final pretrial conference. That submission shall be accompanied by a computer diskette (in WordPerfect format) which contains the instructions, proposed voir dire, special verdict forms, and jury interrogatories.

14.	<u>Trial</u> .	This matter is s	scheduled for	a d	ay j	ury tria	l beginn	ing at	9:00
a.m. on		, 2009 w	ith the subseq	uent trial	days be	eginning	g at 9:00) a.m.	For
the purpose	of comp	oleting pretrial	preparations,	counsel	should	plan o	n each	side 1	being
allocated a to	tal of	hours to p	resent their cas	se.					
Date:									
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